

DECLARATION

I, NOBUMITSU ASAHI, a Japanese Patent Attorney registered No.10435, of Okabe International Patent Office at No. 602, Fuji Bldg., 2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan, hereby declare that I have a thorough knowledge of Japanese and English languages, and that the attached pages contain a correct translation into English of the priority documents of Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-010665 filed on January 18, 2001 in the name of CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed this

day of August, 2008


NOBUMITSU ASAHI

PATENT OFFICE
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office.

Date of Application: January 18, 2001

Application Number: Japanese Patent Application
No. 2001-010665

[ST.10/C]: [JP2001-010665]

Applicant(s): CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

February 8, 2002

Commissioner,
Japan Patent Office KOZO OIKAWA (Seal)

Certificate No. 2002-3005049

2001-010665

Applicant's Information

Identification No. [000001007]

1. Date of Change: August 30, 1990

(Reason of Change) New Registration

Address: 3-30-2, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku, Tokyo

Name: CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

2002-3005049

2001-010665

[Name of the document] Patent Application
[Reference No.] 4118022
[Date] January 18, 2001
[Addressed to] Commissioner, Patent Office
[International Classification] H04N 5/57
G06T 3/00
G09G 5/00
[Title of the Invention] IMAGE DISPLAYING APPARATUS AND IMAGE DISPLAYING METHOD RESPECTIVELY HAVING IMAGE QUALITY ADJUSTMENT FUNCTION, AND RECORDING MEDIUM
[Number of the Claims] 19
[Inventor]
[Domicile or Residence] c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha
3-30-2, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku,
Tokyo
[Name] MASAKI NAKANO
[Applicant]
[Identification No.] 000001007
[Name] CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA
[Attorney]
[Identification No.] 100077481
[Patent Attorney]
[Name] YOSHIKAZU TANI
[Elected Attorney]
[Identification No.] 100088915
[Patent Attorney]
[Name] KAZUO ABE
[Indication of Official Fee]
[Prepayment Ledger No.] 013424

[Amount] 21000

[List of Filed Materials]

[Material] Specification 1

[Material] Drawings 1

[Material] Abstract 1

[General Power of Attorney] 9703598

[Proof Requirement] Required

[Document Title] SPECIFICATION

2001-010665

[Title of the Invention]

IMAGE DISPLAYING APPARATUS AND IMAGE DISPLAYING
METHOD RESPECTIVELY HAVING IMAGE QUALITY ADJUSTMENT

5 FUNCTION, AND RECORDING MEDIUM

[Claims]

1. An image displaying apparatus comprising:
multiscreen synthesis means for composing one
10 screen by executing a trimming process to a part of
an input image and arranging plural pieces of that
image;
image quality adjustment value storage means for
storing plural combinations of image quality
15 adjustment values such as lightness, contrast,
chromaticity, hue, RGB (red, green and blue) balance,
color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness
(emphasis) and the like;
image quality adjustment process means for
20 executing the image quality adjustment processes for
plural images on the basis of the image quality
adjustment values of the respective combinations
stored in said image quality adjustment value storage
means; and
25 control means for converting an input image into
a first image to which an image quality adjustment
process was executed by said image quality adjustment

process means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment value storage means, and similarly 5 converting the input image into a second image to which an image quality adjustment process was executed by said image quality adjustment process means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation, 10 then displaying the converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state by said multiscreen synthesis means.

2. An image displaying apparatus comprising:
image enlargement and reduction means for
15 enlarging and reducing an input image;
multiscreen synthesis means for composing one screen by arranging plural pieces of the input image reduced by said image enlargement and reduction means;
20 image quality adjustment value storage means for storing plural combinations of image quality adjustment values such as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the
25 like;
image quality adjustment process means for executing the image quality adjustment processes for

plural images on the basis of the image quality adjustment values of the respective combinations stored in said image quality adjustment value storage means; and

5 control means for executing an image quality adjustment process to an input image by said image quality adjustment process means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in said
10 image quality adjustment value storage means and converting the input image into a first image which was reduced by said image enlargement and reduction means, and similarly executing an image quality adjustment process to the input image by said image
15 quality adjustment process means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation and converting the input image into a second image which was reduced by said image enlargement and reduction means, then displaying the
20 converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state by said multiscreen synthesis means.

3. An image displaying apparatus comprising:
image enlargement and reduction means for enlarging and reducing an input image;
25 multiscreen synthesis means for composing one screen by executing a trimming process to a part of the image reduced by said image enlargement and

reduction means and arranging plural pieces of that image;

image quality adjustment value storage means for storing plural combinations of image quality
5 adjustment values such as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like;

image quality adjustment process means for
10 executing the image quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis of each of combinations of the image quality adjustment values stored in said image quality adjustment value storage means; and

control means for executing an image quality
15 adjustment process to an input image by said image quality adjustment process means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment value storage means and

20 converting the input image into a first image which was reduced by said image enlargement and reduction means, and similarly executing an image quality adjustment process to the input image by said image quality adjustment process means on the basis of an
25 image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation and converting the input image into a second image which was reduced by said image

enlargement and reduction means, then displaying the converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state by said multiscreen synthesis means.

4. An image displaying apparatus according to
5 any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein

images which are displayed on one screen with arranged state by said multiscreen synthesis means are two pieces, and the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment 10 operation stored in said image quality adjustment value storage means coincides with a value which was previously set at a time of manufacturing, and
said multiscreen synthesis means displays an image to which the image quality adjustment process 15 was executed on the basis of the value which was previously set at the time of manufacturing and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment 20 operation on one screen with arranged state.

5. An image displaying apparatus according to
any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein
images which are displayed on one screen with arranged state by said multiscreen synthesis means 25 are two pieces, and the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment

value storage means coincides with a value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation, and

5 said multiscreen synthesis means displays an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the 10 image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

6. An image displaying apparatus according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein

15 images which are displayed with arranged state by said multiscreen synthesis means are two pieces, and any one value can be selected from a value which was previously set at a time of manufacturing or a value which was used just before starting the image 20 quality adjustment operation as the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment value storage means, and

25 said multiscreen synthesis means displays any one image from an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was previously set at the time of

manufacturing or an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which

5 the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

7. An image displaying apparatus according to
10 any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein

images which are displayed with arranged state by said multiscreen synthesis means are three pieces, and the image quality adjustment values before performing the image quality adjustment operation
15 stored in said image quality adjustment value storage means are two values which were previously set at a time of manufacturing and used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation, and
said multiscreen synthesis means displays three
20 pieces of an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was previously set at the time of manufacturing, an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the
25 value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on

the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

8. An image displaying apparatus according to
5 any one of Claims 1 to 7, further comprising operation means for arbitrarily setting a reduction ratio in said image enlargement and reduction means and image arrangement or trimming position in said multiscreen synthesis means.

10 9. An image displaying method comprising:
a multiscreen synthesis step of composing one screen by executing a trimming process to a part of an input image and arranging plural pieces of that image;

15 an image quality adjustment value storage step of storing plural combinations of various image quality adjustment values such as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the
20 like; and

an image quality adjustment process step of executing the image quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis of each of combinations of the image quality adjustment values stored in said
25 image quality adjustment value storage step,
wherein an input image is converted into a first image to which an image quality adjustment process

was executed in said image quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment 5 value storage step, and similarly the input image is converted into a second image to which an image quality adjustment process was executed in said image quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an 10 adjustment operation, then the converted first and second images are displayed on one screen with arranged state in said multiscreen synthesis step.

10. An image displaying method comprising:

an image enlargement and reduction step of 15 enlarging and reducing an input image;

a multiscreen synthesis step of composing one screen by arranging plural pieces of the input image reduced in said image enlargement and reduction step;

an image quality adjustment value storage step 20 of storing plural combinations of image quality adjustment values such as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like; and

25 an image quality adjustment process step of executing the image quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis of each of combinations of

the image quality adjustment values stored in said image quality adjustment value storage step,

wherein an image quality adjustment process is executed to an input image in said image quality

5 adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment value storage step and the input image is converted into a first image which was

10 reduced in said image enlargement and reduction step, and similarly an image quality adjustment process is executed to the input image in said image quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an

15 adjustment operation and the input image is converted into a second image which was reduced in said image enlargement and reduction step, then the converted first and second images are displayed on one screen with arranged state in said multiscreen synthesis

20 step.

11. An image displaying method comprising:

an image enlargement and reduction step of enlarging and reducing an input image;

a multiscreen synthesis step of composing one

25 screen by executing a trimming process to a part of the image reduced in said image enlargement and reduction step and arranging plural pieces of that

image;

an image quality adjustment value storage step
of storing plural combinations of image quality
adjustment values such as lightness, contrast,
5 chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature,
gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the
like; and

10 an image quality adjustment process step of
executing the image quality adjustment processes for
plural images on the basis of each of combinations of
the image quality adjustment values stored in said
image quality adjustment value storage step,

15 wherein an image quality adjustment process is
executed to an input image in said image quality
adjustment process step on the basis of an image
quality adjustment value before performing an image
quality adjustment operation stored in said image
quality adjustment value storage step and the input
image is converted into a first image which was
20 reduced in said image enlargement and reduction step,
and similarly an image quality adjustment process is
executed to the input image in said image quality
adjustment process step on the basis of an image
quality adjustment value of newly performing an
25 adjustment operation and the input image is converted
into a second image which was reduced in said image
enlargement and reduction step, then the converted

first and second images are displayed on one screen with arranged state in said multiscreen synthesis step.

12. An image displaying method according to any
5 one of Claims 9 to 11, wherein

images which are displayed on one screen with arranged state in said multiscreen synthesis step are two pieces, and the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment 10 operation stored in said image quality adjustment value storage step coincides with a value which was previously set at a time of manufacturing, and said multiscreen synthesis step displays an image to which the image quality adjustment process 15 was executed on the basis of the value which was previously set at the time of manufacturing and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment 20 operation on one screen with arranged state.

13. An image displaying method according to any one of Claims 9 to 11, wherein

images which are displayed on one screen with arranged state in said multiscreen synthesis step are 25 two pieces, and the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment

value storage step coincides with a value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation, and

5 said multiscreen synthesis step displays an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the 10 image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

14. An image displaying method according to any one of Claims 9 to 11, wherein

15 images which are displayed with arranged state in said multiscreen synthesis step are two pieces, and any one value can be selected from a value which was previously set at a time of manufacturing or a value which was used just before starting the image 20 quality adjustment operation as the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment operation stored in said image quality adjustment value storage step, and

25 said multiscreen synthesis step displays any one image from an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was previously set at the time of

manufacturing or an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which
5 the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

15. An image displaying method according to any
10 one of Claims 9 to 11, wherein

images which are displayed with arranged state in said multiscreen synthesis step are three pieces, and the image quality adjustment values before performing the image quality adjustment operation
15 stored in said image quality adjustment value storage step are two values which were previously set at a time of manufacturing and used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation, and

said multiscreen synthesis step displays three
20 pieces of an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was previously set at the time of manufacturing, an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the
25 value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on

the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

16. An image displaying method according to any
5 one of Claims 9 to 15, further comprising an operation step of arbitrarily setting a reduction ratio in said image enlargement and reduction step and image arrangement or trimming position in said multiscreen synthesis step.

10 17. A recording medium which records an image display program for controlling an image displaying apparatus by a computer, wherein said program causes the computer to

convert an input image into a first image to
15 which an image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of a stored image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation, and into a second image to which an image quality adjustment process was
20 executed on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation, and

25 execute a trimming process to parts of the converted first and second images to display obtained image pieces on one screen with arranged state.

18. A recording medium which records an image display program for controlling an image displaying

apparatus by a computer, wherein said program causes the computer to

execute an image quality adjustment process to an input image on the basis of a stored image quality 5 adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation and convert the input image into a first image which was reduced, and execute an image quality adjustment process to the input image on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly 10 performing an adjustment operation and convert the input image into a second image which was reduced, and

display the converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state.

15 19. A recording medium which records an image display program for controlling an image displaying apparatus by a computer, wherein said program causes the computer to

execute an image quality adjustment process to 20 an input image on the basis of a stored image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation and convert the input image into a first image which was reduced, and execute an image quality adjustment process to the input image on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly 25 performing an adjustment operation and convert the input image into a second image which was reduced,

and

execute a trimming process to each part of the converted first and second images to display obtained image pieces on one screen with arranged state.

5

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention]

The present invention relates to image
10 displaying apparatus and image displaying method
having an image quality adjustment function suitable
for a TV or the like, and a recording medium storing
a program to achieve the above method.

[0002]

15 [Prior Art]

Conventionally, an image processing apparatus
such as a TV set or the like has various image
quality adjustment functions related to hue,
chromaticity, contrast, lightness and the like on a
20 displayed image.

[0003]

[Problem to be Solved by the Invention]

However, in the image quality adjustment in this
kind of conventional image processing apparatus, it
25 is hard to objectively know effect, difference or the
like in the adjustment, therefore, there is a problem
that it is hard to judge whether or not the optimum

adjustment was performed.

[0004]

The present invention is made in consideration of the above-mentioned problem, and an object thereof 5 is to provide convenience in performing image quality adjustment by simultaneously displaying a preadjustment image, a default adjustment image and an adjustment image when the image quality adjustment such as adjustment of contrast, color balance or the 10 like is performed in an image displaying apparatus.

[0005]

[Means and Operations for Solving the Problem]

To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 1 is characterized by an image 15 displaying apparatus comprising: multiscreen synthesis means for composing one screen by executing a trimming process to a part of an input image and arranging plural pieces of that image; image quality adjustment value storage means for storing plural combinations of image quality adjustment values such 20 as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like; image quality adjustment process means for executing the image 25 quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis of the image quality adjustment values of the respective combinations stored in the image quality

adjustment value storage means; and control means for converting an input image into a first image to which an image quality adjustment process was executed by the image quality adjustment process means on the 5 basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage means, and similarly converting the input image into a second image to which an image quality adjustment 10 process was executed by the image quality adjustment process means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation, then displaying the converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state by 15 the multiscreen synthesis means.

[0006]

To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 1 is characterized by an image displaying apparatus comprising: image enlargement 20 and reduction means for enlarging and reducing an input image; multiscreen synthesis means for composing one screen by arranging plural pieces of the input image reduced by the image enlargement and reduction means; image quality adjustment value 25 storage means for storing plural combinations of image quality adjustment values such as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color

temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like; image quality adjustment process means for executing the image quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis 5 of the image quality adjustment values of the respective combinations stored in the image quality adjustment value storage means; and control means for executing an image quality adjustment process to an input image by the image quality adjustment process 10 means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage means and converting the input image into a first image which was reduced by the image 15 enlargement and reduction means, and similarly executing an image quality adjustment process to the input image by the image quality adjustment process means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation and 20 converting the input image into a second image which was reduced by the image enlargement and reduction means, then displaying the converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state by the multiscreen synthesis means.

25 [0007]

To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 3 is characterized by an image

displaying apparatus comprising: image enlargement and reduction means for enlarging and reducing an input image; multiscreen synthesis means for composing one screen by executing a trimming process

5 to a part of the image reduced by the image enlargement and reduction means and arranging plural pieces of that image; image quality adjustment value storage means for storing plural combinations of image quality adjustment values such as lightness,

10 contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like; image quality adjustment process means for executing the image quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis

15 of each of combinations of the image quality adjustment values stored in the image quality adjustment value storage means; and control means for executing an image quality adjustment process to an input image by the image quality adjustment process

20 means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage means and converting the input image into a first image which was reduced by the image

25 enlargement and reduction means, and similarly executing an image quality adjustment process to the input image by the image quality adjustment process

means on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation and converting the input image into a second image which was reduced by the image enlargement and reduction 5 means, then displaying the converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state by the multiscreen synthesis means.

[0008]

Here, it is possible to be characterized in that 10 images which are displayed on one screen with arranged state by the multiscreen synthesis means are two pieces, and the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment 15 value storage means coincides with a value which was previously set at a time of manufacturing, and the multiscreen synthesis means displays an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was 20 previously set at the time of manufacturing and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

25 [0009]

Further, it is possible to be characterized in that images which are displayed on one screen with

arranged state by the multiscreen synthesis means are two pieces, and the image quality adjustment value before performing the image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment 5 value storage means coincides with a value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation, and the multiscreen synthesis means displays an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the 10 value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the adjustment operation on one screen 15 with arranged state.

[0010]

Furthermore, it is possible to be characterized in that images which are displayed with arranged state by the multiscreen synthesis means are two pieces, and any one value can be selected from a 20 value which was previously set at a time of manufacturing or a value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation as the image quality adjustment value before performing 25 the image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage means, and the multiscreen synthesis means displays any one image

from an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the value which was previously set at the time of manufacturing or an image to which the image quality adjustment process 5 was executed on the basis of the value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of performing the 10 adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

[0011]

Furthermore, it is possible to be characterized in that images which are displayed with arranged 15 state by the multiscreen synthesis means are three pieces, and the image quality adjustment values before performing the image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage means are two values which were 20 previously set at a time of manufacturing and used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation, and the multiscreen synthesis means displays three pieces of an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis 25 of the value which was previously set at the time of manufacturing, an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the

value which was used just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and an image to which the image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of the image quality adjustment value of 5 performing the adjustment operation on one screen with arranged state.

[0012]

Furthermore, it is possible to be characterized by further comprising operation means for arbitrarily 10 setting a reduction ratio in the image enlargement and reduction means and image arrangement or trimming position in the multiscreen synthesis means.

[0013]

To achieve the above object, the invention as 15 recited in Claim 9 is characterized by an image displaying method comprising: a multiscreen synthesis step of composing one screen by executing a trimming process to a part of an input image and arranging plural pieces of that image; an image quality 20 adjustment value storage step of storing plural combinations of various image quality adjustment values such as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like; and an image 25 quality adjustment process step of executing the image quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis of each of combinations of the image

quality adjustment values stored in the image quality adjustment value storage step, wherein an input image is converted into a first image to which an image quality adjustment process was executed in the image 5 quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage step, and similarly the input image is converted into a second 10 image to which an image quality adjustment process was executed in the image quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation, then the converted first and second images are 15 displayed on one screen with arranged state in the multiscreen synthesis step.

[0014]

To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 10 is characterized by an image 20 displaying method comprising: an image enlargement and reduction step of enlarging and reducing an input image; a multiscreen synthesis step of composing one screen by arranging plural pieces of the input image reduced in the image enlargement and reduction step; 25 an image quality adjustment value storage step of storing plural combinations of image quality adjustment values such as lightness, contrast,

chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like; and an image quality adjustment process step of executing the image quality adjustment processes for 5 plural images on the basis of each of combinations of the image quality adjustment values stored in the image quality adjustment value storage step, wherein an image quality adjustment process is executed to an input image in the image quality adjustment process 10 step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage step and the input image is converted into a first image which was reduced in the image 15 enlargement and reduction step, and similarly an image quality adjustment process is executed to the input image in the image quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation and 20 the input image is converted into a second image which was reduced in the image enlargement and reduction step, then the converted first and second images are displayed on one screen with arranged state in the multiscreen synthesis step.

25 [0015]

To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 11 is characterized by an image

displaying method comprising: an image enlargement and reduction step of enlarging and reducing an input image; a multiscreen synthesis step of composing one screen by executing a trimming process to a part of

5 the image reduced in the image enlargement and reduction step and arranging plural pieces of that image; an image quality adjustment value storage step of storing plural combinations of image quality adjustment values such as lightness, contrast,

10 chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like; and an image quality adjustment process step of executing the image quality adjustment processes for plural images on the basis of each of combinations of

15 the image quality adjustment values stored in the image quality adjustment value storage step, wherein an image quality adjustment process is executed to an input image in the image quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment

20 value before performing an image quality adjustment operation stored in the image quality adjustment value storage step and the input image is converted into a first image which was reduced in the image enlargement and reduction step, and similarly an

25 image quality adjustment process is executed to the input image in the image quality adjustment process step on the basis of an image quality adjustment

value of newly performing an adjustment operation and the input image is converted into a second image which was reduced in the image enlargement and reduction step, then the converted first and second 5 images are displayed on one screen with arranged state in the multiscreen synthesis step.

[0016]

To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 17 is characterized by a recording 10 medium which records an image display program for controlling an image displaying apparatus by a computer, wherein the program causes the computer to convert an input image into a first image to which an image quality adjustment process was executed on the 15 basis of a stored image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation, and into a second image to which an image quality adjustment process was executed on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly 20 performing an adjustment operation, and execute a trimming process to parts of the converted first and second images to display obtained image pieces on one screen with arranged state.

[0017]

25 To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 18 is characterized by a recording medium which records an image display program for

controlling an image displaying apparatus by a computer, wherein the program causes the computer to execute an image quality adjustment process to an input image on the basis of a stored image quality 5 adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation and convert the input image into a first image which was reduced, and execute an image quality adjustment process to the input image on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly 10 performing an adjustment operation and convert the input image into a second image which was reduced, and display the converted first and second images on one screen with arranged state.

[0018]

15 To achieve the above object, the invention as recited in Claim 19 is characterized by a recording medium which records an image display program for controlling an image displaying apparatus by a computer, wherein the program causes the computer to 20 execute an image quality adjustment process to an input image on the basis of a stored image quality adjustment value before performing an image quality adjustment operation and convert the input image into a first image which was reduced, and execute an image 25 quality adjustment process to the input image on the basis of an image quality adjustment value of newly performing an adjustment operation and convert the

input image into a second image which was reduced, and execute a trimming process to each part of the converted first and second images to display obtained image pieces on one screen with arranged state.

5 [0019]

(function)

According to the present invention, by the above constitution, since an input image is reduced and an image in performing the image adjustment operation is 10 to be displayed arranged with a standard image or an image before performing an adjustment operation treated as a reference image, an effect that difference in the image quality can be easily recognized and a delicate image quality adjustment 15 operation can be easily performed.

[0020]

[Embodiments]

Hereinafter, the embodiments of the present invention will be described in detail with reference 20 to the attached drawings.

(First Embodiment)

Fig. 1 shows the structure of an image processing apparatus in the first embodiment to which the present invention is applied. In Fig. 1, numeral 1 denotes a 25 resolution converter acts as an image enlargement and reduction means. Numeral 6 denotes an image input terminal for inputting a digital video signal. Numerals

21 and 22 respectively denote first and second image data operation blocks act as an image quality adjustment process means. Numerals 31 and 32 denote nonvolatile memories such as first and second EPROM's 5 (Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memories) or the like act as an image quality adjustment value storage means.

[0021]

Numeral 4 denotes a screen synthesis block acts 10 as a multiscreen synthesis means. Numeral 5 denotes a display used for displaying images. Numerals 71 and 72 denote first and second frame memories function as buffers for temporarily storing image data. Numeral 74 denotes an OSD signal generator for generating a 15 signal of an OSD (On Screen Display) which visually displays various operation states or the like for an operator. Numeral 75 denotes an operation key block used for performing various operations by the operator. Numeral 76 denotes a CPU (Central 20 Processing Unit) which controls the entire of the image processing apparatus and takes an interface with the operator.

[0022]

The operation key 75 detects various keys 25 operations according to operations performed by the operator and notifies related key data to the CPU 76. Upon receiving the data input, the CPU 76 controls

the entire of an image display apparatus including the resolution converter 1, the first and second nonvolatile memories 31 and 32, the OSD signal generator 74 and other circuit blocks (not shown).

5 [0023]

Image data input from the image input terminal 6 is reduced to half the size of the original size in longitudinal and lateral directions by the resolution converter 1 and once stored in the frame memories 71 10 and 72. Subsequently, an operation process regarding an image quality adjustment is executed to the reduced image data output from the frame memories 71 and 72 on the basis of image quality adjustment values stored in the first and second nonvolatile 15 memories 31 and 32 in the first and second image data operation blocks 21 and 22. As the image quality adjustment values, for example, various values such as lightness, contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB (red, green and blue) balance, color temperature, gamma 20 characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like or combinations of these values correspond to the image quality adjustment value.

[0024]

The image quality adjustment value just before 25 starting an image quality adjustment operation is stored in the first nonvolatile memory 31 and the image quality adjustment value in performing the

image quality adjustment operation by the operation key 75 is stored in the second nonvolatile memory 32 by an instruction from the CPU 76.

[0025]

5 The screen synthesis block 4 arranges the image data from the image data operation block 21 on a central position in a left half area in a display screen, the image data from the image data operation block 22 on a central position in a right half area
10 in the display screen and superimposes a signal from the OSD signal generator 74 on a central lower portion in the display screen, then the display 5 forms images to which a multiscreen synthesis process was executed.

15 [0026]

Fig. 2 schematically illustrates the display screen of the display 5 at this time of the above state. In Fig. 2, numeral 101 denotes an image just before starting the image quality adjustment operation, numeral 102 denotes an image in performing the image quality adjustment operation and numeral 111 denotes an image quality adjustment display according to the OSD signal generator 74.

[0027]

25 In this case, state of performing an adjustment operation of "lightness" to the image 102 displayed on a right side in the screen while comparing it with

the image 101 just before starting the image quality adjustment operation displayed on a left side in the screen is indicated. It should be noted that the reason for giving an adjustment of the "lightness" as 5 an example depends on a fact that the purpose of the present invention has to be illustrated more comprehensible in this description of expressing images in monochrome, and the adjustment is not limited to the lightness. For example, operations of 10 various image quality adjustments such as contrast, chromaticity, hue, RGB balance, color temperature, gamma characteristics, sharpness (emphasis) and the like can be performed.

[0028]

15 Next, a sequence (processing procedure) of the CPU 76 related to the image quality adjustment will be explained. A flow chart shown in Fig. 3 schematically shows a flow when the CPU 76 performs the image quality adjustment operation.

20 [0029]

At first, when the operator selects an image quality adjustment mode using the operation key 75, it is shifted to a multiscreen display mode as shown in Fig. 2 in a step 202.

25 [0030]

Then, a display process based on the OSD is executed in a step 203, an image quality adjustment

value update process of the second nonvolatile memory 32 is executed in accordance with an instruction from the operation key 75 in a step 204 and a checking process of an image quality adjustment mode

5 terminating instruction from the operation key 75 is executed in a step 205. If the image quality adjustment mode terminating instruction does not exist, the flow returns to the step 203 and the above processes are repeated.

10 [0031]

In the step 205, if the image quality adjustment mode terminating instruction exists, the flow advances to a step 206, where an image quality

adjustment value stored in the second nonvolatile

15 memory 32 at that time is firstly copied (mapping) to the first nonvolatile memory 31. Then, in a next step 207, the flow is returned to the display mode which is just before the multiscreen display mode shifted in the step 202 and the display according to the OSD

20 signal generator 74 is terminated to exit from a series of the image quality adjustment sequence.

[0032]

(Second Embodiment)

Fig. 4 schematically illustrates a display

25 screen of a display 5 in the second embodiment to which the present invention is applied. In Fig. 4, the same reference numerals as those in the first

embodiment are given. It should be noted that since circuit blocks for realizing the second embodiment are the same as those in the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1, the detailed description thereof will be 5 omitted.

[0033]

In the second embodiment, a reduction ratio in a resolution converter 1 is set 2/3, and both sides of two images are cut out by a screen synthesis block 4, 10 then a trimming process is executed to form images.

[0034]

The trimming process of cutting out both sides of the two images may be executed at the time of executing a reduction process in the resolution 15 converter 1 or writing image data to frame memories 71 and 72.

[0035]

(Third Embodiment)

Fig. 5 schematically illustrates a display 20 screen of a display 5 in the third embodiment to which the present invention is applied. In Fig. 5, the same reference numerals as those in the first embodiment are given. It should be noted that since circuit blocks for realizing the third embodiment are 25 the same as those in the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1, the detailed description thereof will be omitted.

[0036]

In the third embodiment, a reduction process in a resolution converter 1 is not executed and both sides of two images are cut out by a screen synthesis block 4, then a trimming process is executed to form images. The image quality adjustment display 111 according to the OSD signal generator 74 is superimposed and synthesized on the lowest position in the image 102 in performing the image quality 10 adjustment operation.

[0037]

The trimming process of cutting out both sides of the two images may be executed at the time of executing a reduction process in the resolution 15 converter 1 or writing image data to frame memories 71 and 72.

[0038]

(Fourth Embodiment)

Fig. 6 shows the structure of an image 20 processing apparatus for realizing the fourth embodiment to which the present invention is applied. In the structure shown in Fig. 6, a third image data operation block 23 acts as an image quality adjustment process means, a third nonvolatile memory 25 33 acts as an image quality adjustment value storage means and a third buffer 73 for temporarily storing image data are respectively added to the circuit

structure shown in Fig. 1 in the first embodiment so as to provide three systems in total. Since the functions of each of the blocks are same as those shown in Fig. 1 in the first embodiment, the detailed 5 description thereof will be omitted.

[0039]

The third nonvolatile memory 33 which is newly added stores a default value previously set when the image processing apparatus was shipped or forwarded.

10 In the ordinary operating state, a CPU 76 cannot update this default value.

[0040]

In the fourth embodiment, a reduction ratio in a resolution converter 1 is set 1/2, and the image data 15 from a first image data operation block 21 is arranged on a right upper position in a display screen by a screen synthesis block 4, the image data from a second image data operation block 22 is arranged on a right lower position in the display 20 screen and the image data from the third image data operation block 23 is arranged on a left upper position in the display screen respectively, and a signal from an OSD signal generator 74 is superimposed on a felt lower position in the display 25 screen, then a display 5 forms the image to which a multiscreen synthesis process was executed.

[0041]

Fig. 7 schematically illustrates the display screen of the display 5 at this time of the above-mentioned state. In Fig. 7, the same reference numerals as those in the first embodiment are given.

5 In Fig. 7, numeral 100 denotes an image to which an image adjustment process was executed on the basis of the default value of the image quality adjustment value stored in the third nonvolatile memory 33.

[0042]

10 Therefore, the standard image 100 based on the image quality adjustment default value is displayed on a left upper position in the display screen and the image 101 just before starting the image quality adjustment operation is displayed on a right upper position in the display screen, and an operator performs an image quality adjustment operation to the image 102 displayed on a right lower position in the screen while comparing it with the above-mentioned images.

15 [0043]

(Other Embodiments)

In the above first to fourth embodiments according to the present invention, the image data operation blocks 21, 22 and 23 were provided on the 20 following stages of the resolution converter 1. However, mutual positions between the image data operation blocks and the resolution converter 1 may

be replaced, and image data to which the image quality adjustment processes were executed by those image data operation blocks may be respectively reduced by exclusive resolution converters.

5 [0044]

Further, image data operation blocks capable of executing adjustment processes using an individual image quality adjustment value every area in a screen are provided on the following stages of a multiscreen 10 synthesis means as an image quality adjustment process means, and the image quality adjustment process may be executed for one image which is multiscreen synthesized by a screen synthesis block.

[0045]

15 In the first to third embodiment according to the present invention, the image 101 just before starting the image quality adjustment operation and the image 102 in performing the image quality adjustment operation were displayed with arranged state. However, the standard image 100 of the image 20 quality adjustment default value as explained in the fourth embodiment may be displayed instead of the image 101 just before starting the image quality adjustment operation.

25 [0046]

Further, a method of selecting any one image from the standard image 100 of the image quality

adjustment default value or the image 101 just before starting the image quality adjustment operation by an operator and displaying the selected one image as a reference image is also considered.

5 [0047]

In any of the above-mentioned embodiments according to the present invention, the arrangement of the reference image and the image 102 in performing the image quality adjustment operation is 10 not limited to the arrangements as shown in Figs. 2, 4, 5 and 6, and a reduction ratio for the both images and the trimming quantity may be changed.

[0048]

In any of the above-mentioned embodiments 15 according to the present invention, a digital video signal is used as an input image signal. However, it is needless to say that an effect of the present invention does not change in a case where the adjustment process is executed after an analog video 20 signal is A/D (analog-to-digital) converted or an analog process is executed to the image quality adjustment process means itself.

[0049]

The present invention is applicable to a system 25 composed of plural equipments (e.g., a host computer, an interface equipment, a reader, a printer, and the like) or to an apparatus including a single equipment

(e.g., a digital TV receiver, a video camera, a video editing apparatus, and the like).

[0050]

It is needless to say that an object of the
5 present invention can be achieved in a case where a
recording medium (storage medium) recording the
program codes of a software for realizing the
functions of the above-mentioned embodiments is
supplied to a system or an apparatus and then a
10 computer (or CPU or MPU) in the system or the
apparatus reads and executes the program codes stored
in the recording medium.

[0051]

In this case, the program codes themselves read
15 from the recording medium realize the functions of
the above-mentioned embodiments, and the recording
medium recording such the program codes constitutes
the present invention.

[0052]

20 The recording medium recording the program codes
and conversion data such as a table or the like can
be, for example, an FD (Floppy Disk), a hard disk, an
optical disk, a magnetooptical disk, a CD-ROM
(Compact Disk Read-Only Memory), a CD-R (Compact Disk
25 Recordable), a magnetic tape, a nonvolatile memory
card (IC (Integrated Circuit) card), a ROM or the
like.

[0053]

It is needless to say that the present invention also includes not only a case where the functions of the above-mentioned embodiments are realized by the 5 execution of the program codes read by the computer, but also a case where an OS (Operating System) or the like functioning on the computer executes all the process or a part thereof according to the 10 instructions of the program codes, thereby realizing the functions of the above-mentioned embodiments by 15 the executed processes.

[0054]

[Effect of the Invention]

As explained above, according to the present 15 invention, since the input image is reduced and the image in performing the image adjustment operation is to be displayed arranged with the standard image or the image before performing the adjustment operation treated as the reference image, the effect that 20 difference in the adjustment can be easily recognized and a delicate image quality adjustment operation can be easily performed is obtained.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

25 Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing the structure of an image processing apparatus in the first embodiment.

Fig. 2 is a schematic view of a displayed image in the first embodiment.

Fig. 3 is a flow chart showing a processing procedure in the first embodiment.

5 Fig. 4 is a schematic view of a displayed image in the second embodiment.

Fig. 5 is a schematic view of a displayed image in the third embodiment.

10 Fig. 6 is a block diagram showing the structure of an image processing apparatus in the fourth embodiment.

Fig. 7 is a schematic view of a displayed image in the fourth embodiment.

15 [Description of Reference Numerals]

1 ... resolution converter acting as image enlargement and reduction means

4 ... screen synthesis block acting as multiscreen synthesis means

20 5 ... display used for displaying images

6 ... image input terminal

21 ... first image data operation block acting as image quality adjustment process means

22 ... second image data operation block acting as 25 image quality adjustment process means

23 ... third image data operation block acting as image quality adjustment process means

- 31 ... first nonvolatile memory such as EEPROM or
the like acting as image quality
adjustment value storage means
- 32 ... second nonvolatile memory such as EEPROM or
5 the like acting as image quality
adjustment value storage means
- 33 ... third nonvolatile memory such as EEPROM or
the like acting as image quality
adjustment value storage means
- 10 71 ... first frame memory for temporarily storing
image data
- 72 ... second frame memory for temporarily storing
image data
- 73 ... third frame memory for temporarily storing
15 image data
- 74 ... signal generator for generating a signal of
OSD (On Screen Display)
- 75 ... operation key
- 76 ... CPU (Central Processing Unit)

[Document Title] Abstract

[Abstract]

[Problem] In an image processing apparatus having an image quality adjustment function, to provide

5 convenience in performing image quality adjustment by simultaneously displaying a preadjustment image, a default adjustment image and an adjustment image when image quality adjustment such as adjustment of contrast, color balance or the like is performed.

10 [Means for Achieving Object] Images of the same video source are simultaneously displayed by a multiscreen display according to a multiscreen synthesis function. Further, plural memories such as EPROM's or the like for storing an image quality adjustment value are

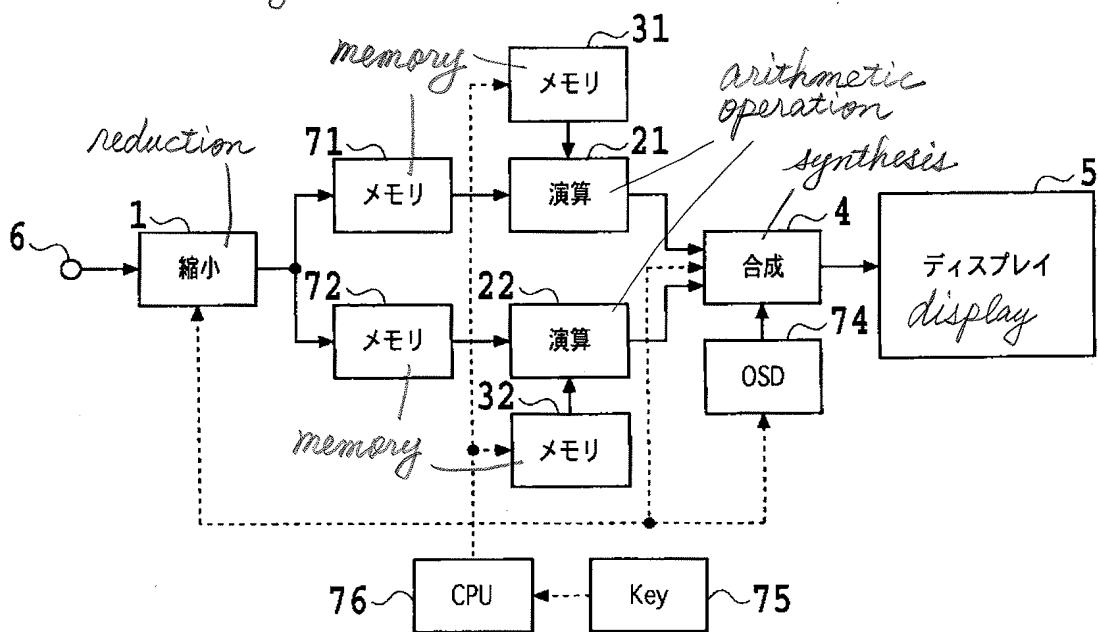
15 provided. Then, an image 100 in performing the image quality adjustment operation is displayed on one screen of a multiscreen, an image 101 just before starting the image quality adjustment operation is displayed on another screen of the multiscreen, and

20 an image 102 of which the image quality was previously set at the time of manufacturing is displayed as a reference image.

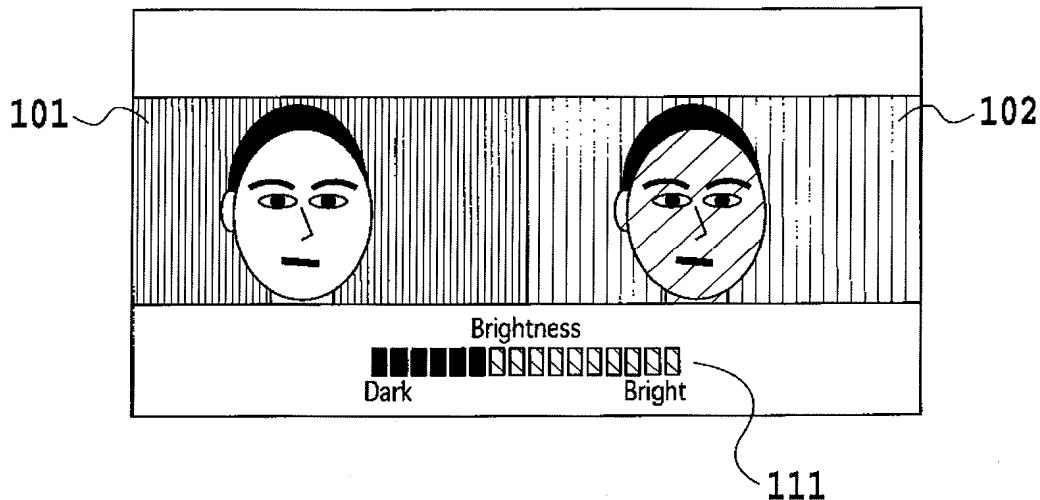
[Selective Drawing] Fig. 7

【書類名】 図面 [Document Title] Drawings

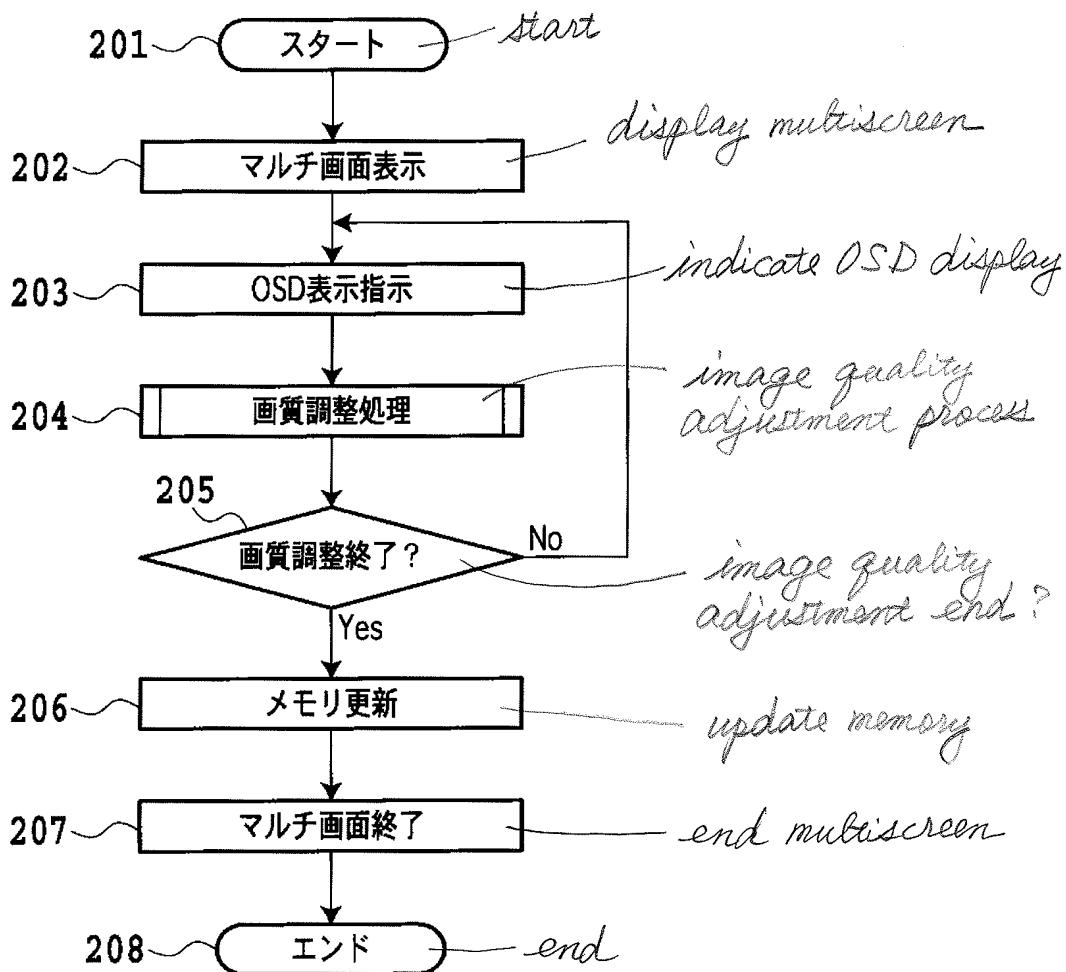
【図1】 [Fig. 1]



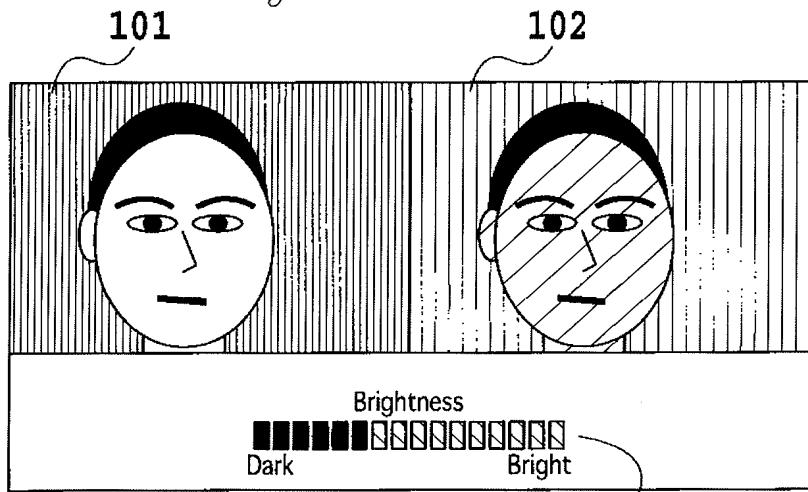
【図2】 [Fig. 2]



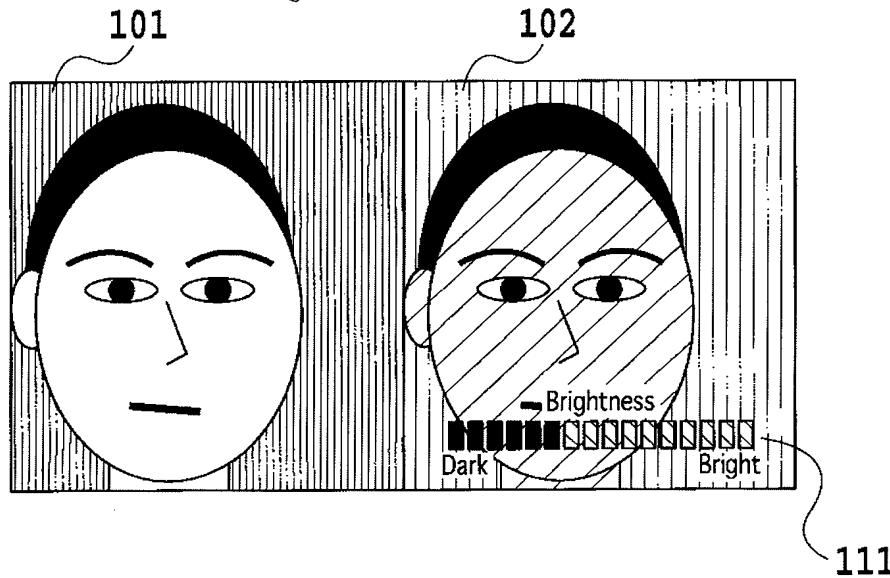
【図3】[Fig. 3]



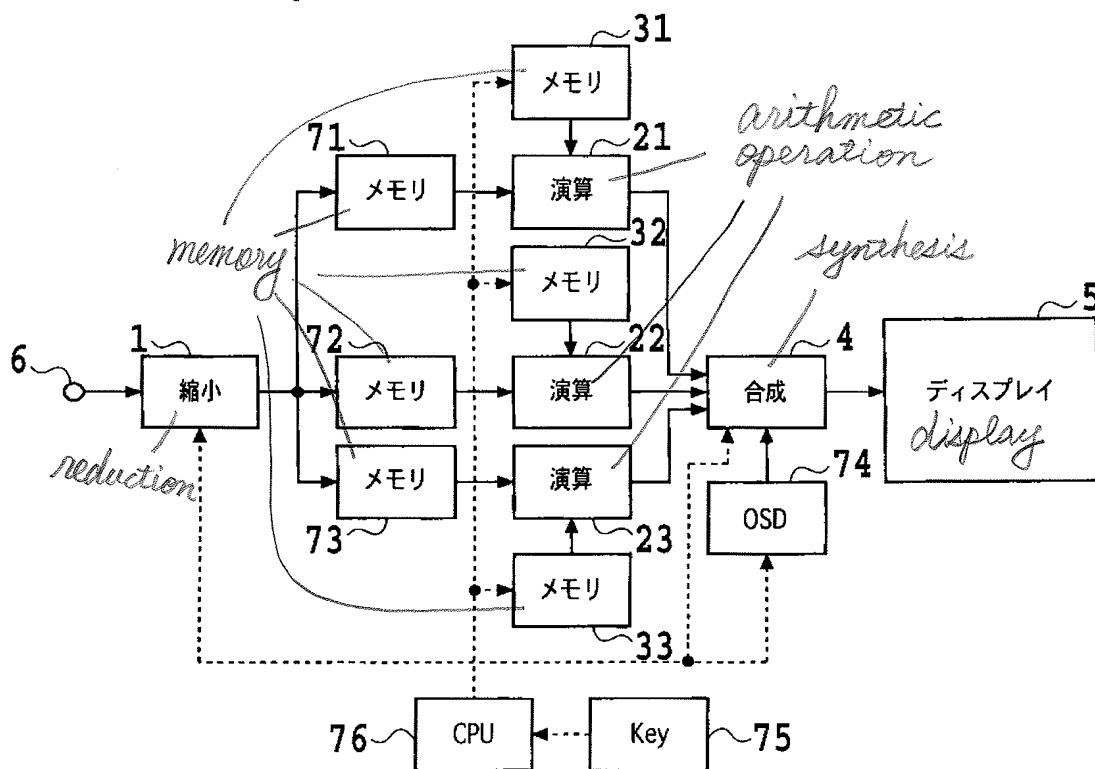
【図4】[Fig. 4]



【図5】 [Fig. 5]



【図6】 [Fig. 6]



【図7】 [Fig. 7]

